

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

(Mr. GOSAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, today I'm here to say enough is enough. The President and this administration are manipulating the shutdown to intentionally hurt as many American families as possible, and that is simply wrong.

My home State of Arizona has many national parks and beautiful scenic views, most importantly, the Grand Canyon, the gem of the National Park Service. It should not be forgotten that these belong to the people.

Though the House passed H.J. Res. 70, Open Our National Parks and Museum Act by a large bipartisan margin, the Senate is refusing to act on it, which is why, in true Arizona fashion, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission offered to the National Park Service their own solution, which is to include their own game and fish resources to keep open our national parks, including Lees Ferry, the gateway to the Colorado River, the Grand Canyon, and the very symbol of Arizona.

On behalf of the people of Arizona, I urge the National Park Service to get out of the way. Let residents, let Americans, let everyone back into their parks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities towards the President. While a Member may engage in criticisms of policies of the President, remarks may not include those personalities.

STOP TRYING TO BURN DOWN THE HOUSE

(Mr. DOYLE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, we've heard from our Republican colleagues that Democrats don't want to compromise, that the President doesn't want to negotiate.

I read something on the Internet this morning that sort of describes the type of negotiation the Republicans want to have with us. It goes something like this:

Can I burn down your house?

No.

How about just the second floor?

No.

How about the garage?

No.

Well, let's talk about what I can burn down.

No.

You're not compromising.

Mr. Speaker, this is what we've been going through. You want a budget for 6 weeks? Defund ObamaCare. Delay ObamaCare. Take away the individual mandate from ObamaCare. Or please,

just sit down with us and tell us what we can take away from 20 million Americans who need health care, and then we'll reopen the government.

Let me say to my colleagues, if you would just stop trying to burn down the house, we can talk.

PAY OUR MILITARY ACT

(Mr. BROOKS of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, this week the Pay Our Military Act became law. It states, in part, and I quote:

There are hereby appropriated for fiscal year 2014 such sums as are necessary to provide pay and allowances to: Members of the armed services, civilian personnel of the Department of Defense who are providing support to members of the armed services, and contractors of the Department of Defense whom are providing support to members of the Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, every single DOD civilian worker and contractor supports the armed services. Hence, as a matter of law, there should be no furloughs of any DOD civilian personnel and no payment delays to any DOD contractors.

Yet, a DOD memo states, "Of the Department's 800,000 civilian workers, about half will be furloughed."

Mr. Speaker, that violates the Pay Our Military Act, and the Obama administration must immediately return all 400,000 furloughed DOD employees to work and pay all DOD contractors on time. It's the law.

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ACA EXCHANGE OPENING

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, despite Republicans' conviction to defund, dismantle, and shut the Federal Government down because they want to deny health care to millions of Americans, exchanges have opened across the country with overwhelming response. In fact, in my home State of California, Covered California, which is California's exchange, reported 5 million page views to their Web site by 3 o'clock in the afternoon, exceeding expectations.

Women can no longer be charged more for just being a woman. Victims of domestic violence can no longer be denied coverage for having a pre-existing condition, and insurance companies can no longer increase premiums to increase profits while delivering less health care to consumers.

Mr. Speaker, the American people are tired of this. Hostage-taking is a deplorable tactic. Shutting down the government in exchange for denying health care for millions is morally wrong.

Let's reopen the government. We should do it now. The American people deserve us to do our job to keep gov-

ernment functioning. That's our patriotic duty.

FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS

(Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, the American people deserve better. The American people deserve better than a Federal Government that is largely shut down—services curtailed, employees furloughed. They deserve better than a President who says he will not negotiate and a Senate that apparently cannot negotiate.

Mr. Speaker, the House has sent multiple continuing resolutions to the Senate to fund government operations through mid-December. The Senate dismissed each one, including our request to establish a House-Senate conference committee to engage in dialogue to discuss our differences and, yes, to work toward solutions. After all, compromise should not be a four-letter word here in Washington. But the President won't negotiate and the Senate won't talk.

To paraphrase a recent military leader: Tell me how this ends.

Until they come around, we must all remain committed to ending this government shutdown and for fighting for fairness in the President's new health care law.

PRAY FOR WISDOM

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, in the short time that I have been here, I have had the honor of meeting many of my colleagues on the Republican side, and I have found them to be very honorable people. In fact, I have had the solemn opportunity to pray with them. They love their families, they love their country, they love their community, just like we do. And I would hope that we could both stand back on this issue, reopen the government, and find a way to get to a compromise. I think that reasonable people can get there.

So I pray that we are granted wisdom on both sides to step back, to take a look at what we're doing, and to see how many people are being hurt in our communities and around the country. This is not the way I think that we should be acting. I think we are better than that.

Again, I pray for wisdom.

OMB MEMORANDUM ON OPERATIONS DURING A POTENTIAL LAPSE IN FUNDING

(Mr. WALBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I would wholeheartedly concur with the preceding speaker that we need wisdom,